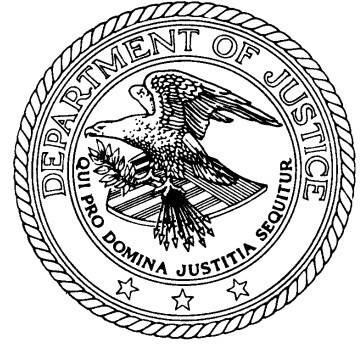


## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway  
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### **SCOTT CITY MAN SENTENCED TO 77 MONTHS FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

May 13, 2008

A Scott City, Missouri man was sentenced today on charges of unlawful possession of firearms, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

**JOHN FOWLER**, age 50, was sentenced to 77 months on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of firearms. He appeared before United States District Judge Catherine D. Perry.

In September, 2006, John Fowler was living in Scott City, Missouri, with his father and other relatives. His father owned two handguns, a Rossi, .38 caliber revolver, and a Smith & Wesson, .22 caliber pistol. Those firearms were kept in the father's bedroom of their residence.

On September 28, 2006, the Scott City police department was called to Mr. Fowler's residence in response to a report of a domestic dispute. Mr. Fowler was arrested by the responding officers. Witnesses at the residence told the officers that John Fowler had obtained his father's two handguns and that a dispute arose over his possession of those firearms. Mr. Fowler was later interviewed by one of the officers. John Fowler admitted, during that interview, that he had handled both firearms earlier in the day and that he had cleaned and loaded them. The firearms were found in the residence by the officers. Both firearms were loaded at the time of their discovery.

Due to Mr. Fowler's previously felony convictions, he is prohibited by law from possessing firearms.

Hanaway praised the Scott City Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.